

SECTION A – READING (30 marks)

This section contains two (2) texts.

Text 1

Read the text and answer all questions that follow.

- I Travel has come to play a very important role in the lives of people today. In the years ahead, the global population will continue to grow and change, science and technology will tighten their hold on business and society, and the world will knit itself ever more tightly into a single market. As a result, opportunities are abound, and the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) predicts that the world's travel and tourism industry will continue to prosper.
- II Advocates of technology once forecast that computers would ease many of our routine tasks at home as well as at the workplace, and by implication, would make life less stressful. Instead, the opposite has happened. Growing numbers of adults today say their lives have become more complicated and demanding. A recent large-scale survey conducted by the Northwestern University reported that in the US, people spent about 10 percent more time at work than they did a decade ago. In this **high-pressure** environment, more and more people feel that they deserve some good leisure time away from board-meetings, reports, computers, and deadlines. Some are simply desperate for some small affordable luxuries, hence, demands for short 'getaway' trips or longer extended vacations are increasing.
- III Ecotourism, an environmental-friendly travel that emphasizes seeing and saving natural habitats, continues to be one of the fastest growing areas of the travel and tourism industry. Rainforests, wilderness, the ocean and other unpolluted regions provide a unique and necessary chance to escape from keyboards and cell phones. In Brazil, the unspoiled rainforests have attracted an increasing influx of tourists who simply **marvel** at their wilderness. In addition to its massive volcano crater, the popular Poas Volcano National Park in Costa Rica possesses fascinating wildlife and unusual vegetation that have awed tourists from all over. This kind of nature travel often meets the need of tourists who crave for peaceful breaks from their hectic life.

1. State the main idea of each of the following paragraphs.

Paragraph I : The prospect of travel and tourism industry

Paragraph II : _____

Paragraph III : _____

Paragraph IV : _____

Paragraph V : _____

Paragraph VI : The importance of travel and tourism in the 21st century

(4 x 1m = 4 marks)

2. The text contains several reference words that have been underlined. Write what each word or phrase refers to.

(a) 'itself' in paragraph I, refers to _____

(b) 'the opposite' in paragraph II, refers to _____

(c) 'their' in paragraph III, refers to _____

(d) 'them' in paragraph IV, refers to _____

(e) 'these studies' in paragraph IV, refers to _____

(f) 'it' in paragraph V, refers to _____

(6 x 1m = 6 marks)

3. Use contextual clues to guess the meaning of the highlighted words in the text.

(a) 'high-pressure' in paragraph II, means _____

(b) 'marvel' in paragraph III, means _____

(c) 'preserve' in paragraph IV, means _____

(d) 'fascination' in paragraph IV, means _____

(e) 'lure' in paragraph V, means _____

(5 x 1m = 5 marks)

Text 2

Read the text and complete the task that follows.

- I Governments often encourage tourism as a lucrative source of income. The general attitude towards tourism has always been positive. But do they know that tourism can actually have negative impacts? Negative environmental impacts from tourism occur when the level of visitor use is greater than the environment's ability to cope with this use within the acceptable limits of change. Uncontrolled conventional tourism poses potential threats to many natural areas around the world. It can cause depletion of natural resources such as water, land and air.
- II Water, especially fresh water, is one of the most critical natural resources. The tourism industry generally overuses water resources for hotels, swimming pools, golf courses and personal use of water by tourists. This can result in water shortages and degradation of water supplies, as well as generating a greater volume of waste water. In drier regions like the Mediterranean, the issue of water scarcity is of particular concern. Because of the hot climate and the tendency of tourists to consume more water when on holiday than they do at home, the amount used can run up to 440 liters a day. This is almost double what the inhabitants of an average Spanish city use.
- III The maintenance of golf courses can also deplete fresh water resources. They require an enormous amount of water every day and, as with other causes of excessive extraction of water, this can result in water scarcity. If the water comes from wells, over-pumping can cause saline intrusion into groundwater. Golf resorts are more and more often situated in or near protected areas or areas where resources are limited, worsening their impacts. According to a local tourism center, an average golf course in a tropical country such as Thailand uses as much water as used by 60 000 rural villagers.
- IV Increased construction of tourism and recreational facilities has increased the pressure on natural resources. Direct impact on land resources, both renewable and nonrenewable, in the provision of tourist facilities can be caused by the use of land for accommodation and other infrastructure provision, and the use of building materials. Forests often suffer negative impacts of tourism in the form of deforestation caused

Based on Text 2, prepare notes on The Impact of Tourism on Nature.

(10 marks)